GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:513
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2002
ALMATY CONFERENCE
JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA;VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister attended the Conference on interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) Summit held in Almaty, Kazakhstan in the beginning of June this year;

(b) if so, the decisions taken therein for establishing peace and confidence building in Asia;

(c) the details of talks held by the Prime Minister with assembled leaders;

(d) whether any talks were held between India and Pak representatives on the sidelines of the said Conference;

(e) if so, the details thereof and outcome thereof; and

(f) the extent to which the declaration on elimination of terrorism in all its forms reflected and accommodated the India`s stand on terrorism and infiltration from across the border?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

a) Yes, Sir. In the course of his visit to Kazakhstan from June 2-5, PM took part in the Summit of Heads of States and Governments of CICA (Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia) on June 4.

b), c) The Documents adopted at the Summit comprised the `Almaty Act` and the `CICA Declaration on Eliminating Terrorism and Promoting Dialogue among Civilizations`. These focus on Confidence Building Measures as instruments for conflict prevention, security and cooperation and the fight against terrorism.

d) No, Sir.

e) Does not arise.

f) Both the Almaty Act and the Declaration on Terrorism adequately reflect India`s concerns related to terrorism. The text of the Almaty Act is unprecedented in its strong censure of separatism aided and abetted by external support. The Declaration on Terrorism unequivocally condemned terrorism, while clearly stating that `the fight against terrorism should be global, comprehensive and sustained, and not selective or discriminatory and should avoid using double standards`.